



PRESS RELEASE

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Crime Victim Notification Information Available in Spanish

Jackson — Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC) Commissioner Christopher Epps and MDOC Division of Victim Services (DVS) Director Tara Frazier today announced that victims may access information in Spanish regarding how to register for inmate release information through the MDOC website.

Victims may access the MDOC-Division of Victim Services brochure in Spanish by going to the MDOC website and clicking the *Victims of Crime* link on the homepage. From there, victims may choose the victims services brochure in Spanish.

Said MDOC Commissioner Christopher Epps, “The MDOC – Division of Victim Services envisioned making services available to an underserved population in Mississippi, and through that vision, was able to work with staff of the Office of the Attorney General to develop the victim services brochure in Spanish.”

The MDOC Division of Victim Services (DVS) provides crime victims access to inmate information if the inmate is under the authority of MDOC. Many of the services provided to victims are outlined in the Crime Victims’ Bill of Rights, and include:

- Notification within 15 days prior to the end of the sentence of the inmate;
- Notice of release upon expiration of sentence or medical release; and
- Notice within 15 days after the prisoner has died if within MDOC custody.

The DVS will also provide referral services to victims with specific needs, such as counseling and support groups, information about the Crime Victim Compensation Program, crisis intervention and contacts with victim assistance organizations throughout the state. The DVS also provides MDOC staff with victim sensitivity training.

To receive assistance from DVS, victims must complete and return a notification form to MDOC. To receive a copy of the notification form, victims can call toll free at 1-866-522-4087 or victims can electronically complete and submit a notification form through the MDOC website, www.mdoc.state.ms.us.

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